(c) if so, what is the number of such pending applications State-wise, indicating the number of applications pending for over five and three years, respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN): (a) Although there is no Central Law on recognition of trade unions of workers, a Code of Discipline and the criteria for recognition of unions appended to the Code, which were adopted by the Indian Conference in May 1958, regulate grant of recognition to trade unions. A procedure also exists for determination of relative strength of unions operating in an establishment under the Central sphere by secret ballot if the consent of the management and all the unions functioning in the establishment is received for the purpose.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Employment of contract labour by Indian Airlines**

474. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that employment of contract labour by Indian Airlines for sweeping, dusting, watch and ward etc. has been prohibited by Government at its Bombay Station;

(b) if so, whether Indian Airlines are still employing contract labour at Bombay;

(c) whether other stations of Indian Airlines are also employing contract labour;

(d) if so, the present number of such labour employed; and

(e) whether Government propose to abolish this system in Indian Airlines and if so, the steps taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) The Central Government became 'Appropriate Government' in respect of Indian Airlines after the amendment of Contract Labour (Regulation & Aboltion) Act, 1970 on 28-1-1986. Prior to this amendment State Government was the appropriate Government in respect of Indian Airlines. The Central Advisory Contract Labour Board has constituted a *Committee to go into the question* of prohibition of contract labour in sweeping, cleaning, dusting and watching of buildings owned or occupied by the establishments in respect of which Central Government is the 'Appropriate Government.'

**Industrial Disputes pending against Indian Airlines**

475. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial disputes pending against Indian Airlines as on the 30th November, 1990; and

(b) the number of such cases pending in the Central Industrial Tribunal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

**Setting up of industries in the backward areas of the country**

476. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up industries in the backward areas of the country in the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what was the position in that regard in the Seventh Five Year Plan?